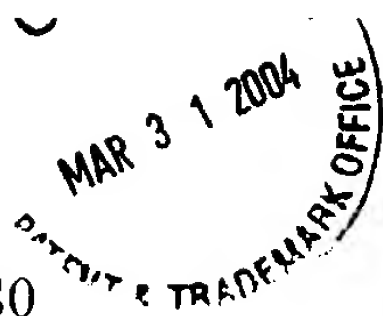


DOCKET NO: 209355US0



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
ULRICH SIMON, ET AL. : EXAMINER: YOON, T. H.
SERIAL NO: 09/973,890 :
FILED: OCTOBER 11, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1714
FOR: CROSSLINKING BASE LAYER :
FOR FIXING INTERLININGS :
ACCORDING TO DOUBLE DOT AND :
PASTE PROCESS :

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the Office Action dated March 4, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Discussion of the Amendment begins on page 6 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.